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MASSERA VOICES CONFIDENCE IN WORLD CUP SECURITY

PY241515Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 24 May 78 PY

[Excerpts] The commander in chief of the navy yesterday visited the television production center of the Buenos Aires Argentina 78 television company [established for World Cup soccer matches]. Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera was accompanied by Vice Adm Julio Antonio Torti, operations chief of the navy general staff; Vice Adm Eduardo Rene Fracassi, navy secretary general; and Naval Under Secretary Rear Adm (Rodolfo Luteta).

In answer to a question from a Brazilian journalist, Admiral Massera stated: There are no security problems in Argentina. You can walk safely on the streets with absolute confidence, and hopefully we will meet during some soccer game.

Asked his impression of the television center, the navy commander added: I am greatly impressed. I believe this is an example of what Argentines can do when we want to. Hopefully, the national library will be just as successful.

HARGUINDEGUY WARNS FOREIGN NEWSMEN ON WORLD CUP COVERAGE

PY241905Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1636 GMT 24 May 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May--The Argentine Government today warned press agencies against any voluntary or involuntary involvement with subversion. Interior Minister Albano Harguindeguy gave this warning to all directors of national and international press agencies, whom he called especially to his office in the Casa Rosada

The minister said that the meeting had two purposes:

1. To ask his visitors for the most complete objectivity in their treatment of all reports regarding any event which may occur during the world soccer championship.

2. To read them a document which, he said, was found 2 or 3 months ago in possession of a Montoneros group.

This document is a condensation of general instructions given by the terrorists regarding propaganda and various methods of spreading pamphlets. The document also explains how to transmit propaganda texts to international and national press agencies which have offices in Buenos Aires and names each one of them: EFE, ANSA, DPA, AFP, INTERPRES, LATIN, NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, REUTER, AP, SAPORITI, TASS AND UPI.

In each case, one or several employees of these agencies are named as contacts, and the telephone number of each agency is also given.

General Harguindeguy stated: The fact that these agencies or their employees are named in this document does not mean to us that they are accomplices of subversion. He added: I do not judge beforehand, but I warn you so that you do not become unwitting instruments of subversive propaganda. The behavior of newsmen will be the best basis of appraisal for the government in the future, he stressed.

In reply to the minister, a newsman pointed out that the names of news agencies and their coworkers and telephone numbers can be found in any telephone book or yearbook of public relations agencies.

VIDELA DECORATES URUGUAYAN ARMY COMMANDER ALVAREZ

PY241455Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 24 May 78 PY

[Text] Army Commander in Chief Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla last night decorated Lt Gen Gregorio Alvarez, commander of the Uruguayan Army, with the Order of May for military merit in the grade of Grand Cross.

General Videla made some remarks during the ceremony which took place in the Libertador Building. Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera, commander in chief of the navy, and Brig Gen Orlando Ramon Agosti, commander in chief of the airforce, were also present.

During the same ceremony members of the entourage accompanying the military chief during his visit to our country were also decorated.

NUCLEAR NONDISCRIMINATION TO BE STRESSED AT UN

PY241956Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1840 GMT 24 May 78 PY

[By Emilio J. Corbiere]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May--Argentine Foreign Minister Vice Adm Oscar Antonio Montes will explain the Argentine position on disarmament during the UN session on disarmament being held since last Tuesday and which will end on 28 June 1978.

The meeting is the result of long and difficult negotiations which opened the way for the first meeting of nonalined countries in Belgrade (Yugoslavia) in 1961 with the purpose of preventing, first of all, an eventual confrontation between the two nuclear superpowers, the United States and the USSR.

This meeting will permit our country to explain our position to UN members, which is inspired by a peaceful tradition, against the arms race and in support of the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The latter is perhaps one of the most significant problems for the interests of Argentina and Latin America regarding the question of nuclear self-determination.

The disarmament problem--which directly affects everyone without distinction--has created a complex network of interests and problems. During the last 10 years the changes in the technology and quality of both nuclear and conventional weaponry have not experienced the spectacular changes as in previous years, such as the appearance of the atomic bomb or space technology. Therefore, there is the danger that it may appear that military technology has not changed much.

The technical progress in nuclear weapons is quite noticeable, particularly in the fabrication of small weapons of limited action and nuclear weapons of controlled power. Therefore, the tactical concepts for its use on the battlefield can appear to be more acceptable, and thus we can more easily go from a nonnuclear to a nuclear war. Once this is used on the battlefield, the escalation toward a nuclear war can become a dangerous possibility.

After 2 decades of efforts there is now an international current of opinion which strives toward making an overall study of the arms race problem and its cost. At the same time, that international opinion wants the objectives of disarmament to be carried out according to a realistic standpoint, so that the huge economic wealth which is now employed in the manufacture of war materiel can be channeled toward the economic, cultural and social development of the peoples.

Last year investments in war industries totaled $400 billion (mainly through the efforts of NATO and the Warsaw Pact), and the figure will be still higher this year.

This is the reason for the enormous importance of a meeting specially dedicated to disarmament which is being attended by 149 states and close to 100 government heads and representatives.

At international meetings this country has always maintained a position which combines realism with the ideal of peace. It is appropriate to point to the antiwar pact planned in September 1932 by the Foreign Ministry of this country--when Carlos Saavedra Lamas was foreign minister--and signed in Rio de Janeiro in October the same year, which was ratified by a large number of nations of this continent.

The situation with conflicts is now different. The arms race has not ceased, but the technological problem is much more complex. Besides conventional weapons there are nuclear weapons, and as a background there is universal holocaust. Foreign Minister Montes will speak clearly about this and he will promote a gradual and balanced reduction of the nuclear arsenals as an immediate step, until their complete elimination is achieved. Minister Montes will also state the opposition of this country to the development, production and storage of chemical weapons and new mass-destruction weapons.

Minister Montes will, however, reject any attempt at discrimination which may be applied to the transfer of nuclear technology to be used for peaceful purposes, under the pretext of wishing to prevent horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Foreign Minister Montes will probably express the Argentine Government's desire to ratify the Tlaltelolco treaty, which bans nuclear weapons in Latin America. But this treaty should not be confused with the nuclear nonproliferation treaty. Although our country agrees with the objectives which had inspired this latter treaty, it feels that because of its discriminatory nature it becomes negative in its effect, because it recognizes "de jure" the monopoly of the five world powers that own nuclear weapons; that is, it outlines two categories of countries: those which can and those which should not have nuclear weapons. Argentina has always considered this treaty a legal aberration because it undermines the very essence of disarmament, since nobody should have these weapons at all, least of all those who have been awarded the right to have them.

AMBASSADOR TO U.S. INTERVIEWED ON U.S. POLICIES

PY232107Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 20 May 78 p 2 PY

[Text] On learning the U.S. position regarding instructions given to international financial organizations--which was received with strong displeasure by the Argentine Government--CLARIN held an exclusive interview with Argentine Ambassador to the United States Dr Aja Espil. The principle part of the interview reads as follows:

[Question] Dr Espil, I would like you to explain to the Argentine people the scope of the protest presented by the Argentine Government to the Department of State.

[Answer] It should not really be called a protest. The object of the meeting with Under Secretary Christopher and with Under Secretary Newson, who is traveling to Argentina, was to clarify a mistaken policy regarding instructions to international financial organizations. The Eximbank has frozen a number of credits, including some dealing with Yacyreta-Apipe [hydroelectric plant], and this measure apparently originated in some sectors of the Department of State. The objective of this dialog was to specifically clarify whether or not the measure was the U.S. position regarding Eximbank credits.

[Question] Did Under Secretary Christopher give you any answer to the Argentine initiative?

[Answer] Yes. He promised to give full attention to the subject and, in line with this, the visit of the third most important official in the Department of State, Under Secretary Newsom, is aimed at eliminating the various problems of this kind which are causing some friction between the traditional good relations of our two countries.

[Question] When will Ambassador Newsom arrive in Argentina?

[Answer] He will probably arrive toward the middle of next week, and it is important to point out the coincidence of this visit with the well-known reaction of the Carter administration to the Marxist aggression taking place in Africa. The Carter administration has elicited a reaction in this regard. Only 2 days ago the president pointed out that South America was spared from the Marxist military intrusion. What should be asked is whether it was supported from the United States or the efforts of Latin American countries themselves which enabled them to maintain their independence. This same issue is today applicable to the African situation. This issue has forced the Carter administration to define itself and give military and economic support to those countries fighting for their independence and against Marxist aggression in Africa.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, in your conversation with State Department officials you mentioned certain groups within the State Department. Could you tell us who these groups are?

[Answer] It is obvious that there are several groups which have contacts with Argentine subversion that manage to take erroneous opinions and images to certain officials who in some way pick up this information without studying it or comparing it with the information provided by other sources, mainly by the American Embassy in Buenos Aires. It is my personal opinion that Ambassador Castro is satisfied with the progress of the Argentine situation and that is why I cannot understand the contradiction that exists in certain sectors of the State Department.

FRENCH GOVERNMENT PROTESTS LE MONDE NEWSMAN'S TREATMENT

PY241458Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1123 GMT 24 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Paris, 24 May--The French Foreign Ministry has directed Francois de la Gorce, ambassador to Argentina, to protest to the Argentine Government the treatment received by journalist Jean Pierre Clerc of LE MONDE in Buenos Aires, an official spokesman announced here today. Clerc was arrested on Monday at Ezeiza International Airport and left yesterday for Brazil.

SEA OUTLET ISSUE TO BE RAISED AT DISARMAMENT MEET

PY231707Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 May 78 PY

[Text] Foreign Minister Oscar Adriazola Valda will initiate tomorrow at the United Nations a new stage in Bolivian diplomacy, trying to obtain effective support for the maritime cause. Adriazola will leave for New York about noon today. There he will participate in the special UN disarmament assembly. That meeting will be attended by delegates from all over the world and particularly from Latin America.

When the foreign minister confirmed his trip, which was approved at the last cabinet meeting, he commented: The position I will take at the meeting is the one traditionally held by Bolivia regarding pacifism.

Last week Adriazola Valda had announced that this country will oppose any plan exposing this region to an armaments race.

The most important thing, however, is related to the demand to find a prompt solution to the geographically landlocked position. Foreign Minister Adriazola said that the backing promised by Argentina and Venezuela will be decisive in the sessions to obtain a favorable consensus.

NEW TANKS TO ARRIVE; SOURCE UNDISCLOSED

PY231612Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 May 78 PY

[Text] The armed forces of the nation are replacing their obsolete stock of tanks.

A short communique issued by the high command of the armed forces informs the public that a column of tanks will arrive in La Paz within the next few days. The tanks have been bought by the army to replace obsolete materiel, within the framework of its normal budget. It has often been repeated that armament renewal for the various military units is basically due to the need for updating, to which the military institution of the country has a right because of its defense duties.

At the same time it has been repeated that Bolivia maintains its peaceful tradition in view of insistent rumors of an arms race among southern cone countries.

AGREEMENT REACHED FOR REOPENING SAN ANDRES UNIVERSITY

PY231739Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 May 78 PY

[Text] Classes at the Greater University of San Andres [UMSA] will be resumed on Friday this week. Administration offices will be open for the public as of tomorrow, Wednesday. The democratization of UMSA will be brought about through direct balloting by teachers and students.

This agreement was reached yesterday by National Council of Higher Education officials and teachers and students. The agreement was then approved by a student assembly held at the teachers social club last night. It was explained, however, that the agreement will not be signed until today.

The agreement which has been reached stipulated that present UMSA officials, the rector, vice rector and administrative general director, will step down from their posts and that the most senior deans will take their places. These new officials will be considered as temporary and will be in charge of activities and will guarantee the democratization of the UMSA together with a commission formed by teachers and students.

Another agreement stipulates that the UMSA will not suspend its activities during the electoral process in the country.

It was learned that the parties involved in the conflict at the UMSA in La Paz will meet again today to sign this agreement.

TEACHERS DECLARE 48-HOUR STRIKE TO PROTEST PAY OFFER

PY221914Y La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 May 78 PY

[Text] Teachers in La Paz will go on a 48-hour strike to demonstrate their rejection of the official salary readjustment offer. They made this decision at a meeting held Friday night at the teachers house. The last official offer [passage indistinct].

MNR NOMINATES PAZ ESTENSSORO FOR PRESIDENT

PY241558Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 May 78 PY

[Text] The Historic National Revolutionary Movement [MNR] has nominated former President Victor Paz Estenssoro as its presidential candidate in the 9 July elections, during the last day of the MNR party convention. At the same time the process to reunite the MNR seemed to become stronger and more accelerated.

The nomination of Victor Paz as MNR candidate was approved in a resolution which was supported without any kind of reservation and greeted with strong and long applause by those attending the convention, held in the Mexico Cinema in La Paz. The resolution nominates Paz, but it leaves him free to establish alliances for the election.

While the ballots were being counted for the election of members of the MNR National Political Committee, three political figures entered: Col Jose Patino Ayoroa, candidate of the Bolivian Socialist Falange faction led by former Foreign Minister Mario Gutierrez Gutierrez; the Socialist leader Guillermo Aponte Burela; and Benjamin Miguel, chief of the Christian Democratic Party.

FUDP CHARGES GOVERNMENT HARASSMENT TO HELP PEREDA ASBUN

PY201942Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 May 78 PY

[Text] In a note delivered to the president of the National Electoral Court, the Democratic and Popular Unity Front [FUDP] has denounced abuses and attempts against citizens' rights committed by government organizations in order to favor the official candidates. This political coalition, which includes the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, the Bolivian Communist Party, the Socialist Party, the National Movement of the Left, and the Tupac Katari Revolutionary Movement, and which supports the candidacy of Hernan Siles Zuazo, reported the following abuses:

Political literature and amplifying equipment were being transported in the vehicles accompanying Siles Zuazo during his campaign trip to Potosi. Agents of the Interior Ministry violently proceeded to seize these materials in an effort to thwart the Potosi rally.

On Thursday night, when FUDP supporters were putting up posters near (Humaipata), about 20 Interior Ministry agents seized the campaign material, arrested several persons after first threatening them, and later freed them.

The third point of the protest made by FUDP says that the registration of citizens is being conducted by government agents, as in the case of (Ayacachi), where registration books are in the hands of the subprefect.

In light of these events, the FUDP suggests that the National Electoral Court ask the Interior Ministry, the armed forces and the Bolivian police to instruct their subordinates to refrain from continuing such abuses and attempts through a public annoucement.

The communique, which was delivered to the president of the National Electoral Court, is signed by all the leaders of member associations of the FUDP.

DEATH RESULTS FROM POLITICAL RALLY VIOLENCE

PY231627Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 22 May 78 PY

[Text] Security agents of official candidate Juan Pereda Asbun killed 1 peasant and injured more than 30 during an armed confrontation with peasants in Achacachi, La Paz, where the People's Nationalist Union candidate was to be proclaimed. During a press conference, the leaders of the National Confederation of Bolivian Peasant Workers, Tupac Katari, protested that the Achacachi peasants were fooled because they were called to attend a rally to inaugurate a hospital there. Actually, the real reason was to proclaim Gen Juan Pereda Asbun.

According to reports, more than 5,000 peasants reacted against the hoax and decided to pull down the official candidate's posters and equipment. In view of this, police disguised as peasants opened fire on the peasants, killing one of them instantly, and seriously wounding others who were taken to Achacachi.

General Pereda was not able to reach the area and was not proclaimed, according to Tupac Katari leaders. The official candidate's workers had carried out a lot of campaign work and had hired more than 80 trucks to transport peasants to Achacachi When the peasants realized that there was no hospital inauguration and that the rally's purpose was to proclaim Pereda, they became indignant and protested against Gen Juan Pereda.

BRIEFS

MICROWAVE FACILITIES--A microwave network is to be installed in the southern region, covering the cities of Oruro, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz, which will then enjoy a direct dialing system. [La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 May 78 PY]

BANQUET HELD FOR EANES; VISIT TO BRASILIA CONCLUDES

Geisel Addresses Eanes

PY242058Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 23 May 78 p 16 PY

[Text of speech by Brazilian President Ernesto Geisel during reception given for Portuguese President Antonio Ramalho Eanes on 22 May at Itamaraty]

[Text] Your Excellency Mr President, Gen Antonio Ramalho Eanes:

It is wish great honor and satisfaction that we receive Your Excellency in our country. The presence of Your Excellency and your high-ranking entourage marks a significant moment in the long-standing and fraternal coexistence between Brazilians and Portuguese.

The bonds of friendship between us have been constantly strengthened by the mutual admiration between our peoples and by our capabilities for understanding and cordial coexistence. Since the heroic times of the explorers and those who, like the Bandirantes, managed to bring civilization to the vast Brazilian territory, we have been finding common values and desires which go beyond temporary misunderstandings.

Thus, Mr President, the recent basic changes in the life of Portugal--changes which Brazil has watched with understanding and interest in line with the basic principle of our foreign policy, that is, the respect for self-determination and noninterference in the domestic affairs of other countries--these recent changes, I repeat, have come to prove the deep-rooted strength of the bonds between our two nations and have made it very clear that these bonds are fully capable of adjusting to new developments and situations.

We have been and still are fully aware of the permanent spirit which guides the coexistence of our two nations. In addition to this we acknowledge the need to preserve the basic idea behind this spirit--since this idea is a legacy from our forefathers--and implement it in a manner appropriate to the political circumstances of current times, a manner which would allow us to strengthen and develop this spirit.

We can firmly assert, Mr President, that this task is being carried out with steady determination. This was greatly assisted by Minister Azeredo da Silveira's visit to Lisbon in December 1974 and by Prime Minister Mario Soares' visit to Brasilia in December 1976.

Since the conditions for better understanding have been established and since the tendency toward better understanding has been reaffirmed during different phases of Portuguese political life, we can view--and we do so with great satisfaction--Your Excellency's visit to Brazil as the confirmation of a new and significant phase in the relations between the two countries.

Like our forefathers, we must forecast the future and accept its challenges. The relations between Brazil and Portugal can and must be expanded. For this we can count on a variety of common viewpoints which are being strengthened every day thanks to our racial bonds, our common language, and to the existence of an entire legal framework which reflects the feeling of camaraderie shared by the two peoples.

These factors encourage us to continue joint efforts for the implementation of concrete objectives. I see, Mr President, many areas open for our cooperation.

Trade is growing and it becomes necessary to create new conditions to sustain and diversify this growth and to prevent temporary difficulties from hindering it.

Distances have never discouraged Brazil and Portugal. This attitude makes all kinds of bilateral and multilateral contacts easier. There are bound to be areas in which the geographical situation or experience of Brazil and Portugal will tend to favor joint efforts for certain undertakings, including economic and commercial endeavors. At the same time, the expansion of economic relations is bound to find new strength through the solution of issues related to Brazilian investments in Portugal and Portuguese investments in Brazil. It is possible that the agreements reached in this important area will cause the two governments to consider the task of the intergovernment committee created in 1976 finished. However, in this regard it should be recommended that the remaining problems, even though they do not justify the maintenance of the above-mentioned committee, should be given swift solutions which are satisfactory to the two parties involved. The successful conclusions of these negotiations are proof of the constructive spirit which inspires our two governments in their desire for economic rapprochement.

With regard to cultural relations, which have always deserved special attention, we must point out that there are promising prospects which stem more from business contacts than from official efforts. Better information about the craftsmanship of the two countries will lead to a greater knowledge of our national values, traditions and traits, and will help each other's efforts such as correspondence, meetings and talks between the academies and other cultural institutions. The Portuguese language is the official language of seven countries and the seventh most important language of the world, and this gives us a good idea of the growing common patrimony we must protect.

Mr President,

The vastness of the Atlantic has never managed to separate us. We view the ocean as a living border which brings us into contact with other friendly countries on either side. Thus, we view with special interest the new relations between Portugal and the many African countries to which we are closely tied by racial bonds, language and a sincere friendship. Like Portugal we repudiate apartheid and racial discrimination. We express the strong hope that the right to self-determination of the peoples of Namibia and Zimbabwe will be acknowledged and put into effect soon and that the racist practices still prevailing in the African Continent will be eliminated.

With regard to the development of the world economic situation and the relations between developing and developed countries, we hope that the North-South dialog will be reactivated and that it will allow the attainment of a new international economic order on an equitable basis. In this regard, it is of primary importance for developing countries to improve their channels of access to the international markets, especially in those areas where unfair protectionist tendencies still prevail. Brazil continues to believe that whatever progress we may achieve in this regard will benefit the world economy in general because it will be based on better conditions of competitiveness, conditions which will give rise to a more economical utilization of current productive resources.

Mr President, General Ramalho Eanes,

In conveying my wife's and my own affectionate greetings to Your Excellency and Mrs Manuela Ramalho Eanes, I wish to raise my glass and toast the well-being and prosperity of the Portuguese people and government, represented here by Your Excellency, to whom I also express my wishes for personal happiness for yourself, your family and the illustrious members of your entourage.

Eanes Speech

PY241926Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 23 May 78 p 16 PY

[Text of speech delivered by Portuguese President Antonio Ramalho Eanes on 22 May during reception given by President Ernesto Geisel at Itamaraty]

[Text] Mr President:

I came to Brazil representing the people of Portugal with the awareness that I must fulfill a historic mandate: It is our duty to give new meaning to the capability for natural understanding which has always existed between our peoples.

But I cannot escape the thrill of experiencing Cabral's amazement before this example of youth and greatness: the amazement of one who again sees in the history of humanity the universal dimension of Portuguese destiny during the 1500's [de quinhentos]; the amazement of one who discovers in the men and land of Santa Cruz the foundations of a nation which will influence the 21st century. But this emotion is motivated mainly by the example of the generations which bequeathed to us such a great future and such a profound communion of values and ideals.

The strongest and longest-lasting bonds which now exist between Brazil and Portugal existed even before our times, and a review of our relations demonstrates that those permanent bonds even resisted men who tried to destroy them. That is why today we ask ourselves what we can add to the unique heritage of our relations to honor history and to prepare for the future.

We have a legal and institutional situation which does not demand new mechanisms. That which is an impossible goal in relations between other countries has already been achieved between us. It is now up to us to express the reality and ideas of the men of our times through economic, scientific and technical cooperation. In the search for those realities and permanent ideals, we have encountered a people in whom the rejuvenating spirit of progress and change is felt.

During the last few years, the Portuguese lived through profound changes in a situation carried to the breaking point by so many years of stagnation. Experience has taught us that, where there is no courage for reform, the violence of revolution lies hidden.

We have recovered our faith in the values from which Portugal emerged, and we have shown the world how we have come to understand ourselves. We wish to dispel any doubts about the nation's will to recover the political philosophy which originated from the 24 April 1974 movement, and which certain forces tried to discredit in order to serve interests alien to the Portuguese nation.

We also wish to share with our Brazilian brothers our belief that the search for economic and political solutions for Western Europe, as well as the bonds of unity which we hope to establish with the new African nations of Portuguese heritage and with European communities, can only strengthen the ties which fortunately unite Brazil and Portugal.

We are aware of the vast dimensions of Brazil, whose evolution toward a new continental structure to complete the consolidation of its admirable territorial unity and to encourage social progress surely justifies the effort of all the people of this great nation. We admire and respect this effort because it is based on the laws of a country we helped to build, and because it is one of the most unique and profound structural changes in history.

Therefore, we can understand the concern for placing the greatest number of human and material resources into the task of national integration, and for keeping public conscientiousness alert until the journey leads to the full economic, political and social development of this great nation.

Nonetheless, we believe that the magnitude of the task awaiting the Brazilian nation does not prevent us from confronting the urgent necessity to unite ourselves, Brazilians and Portuguese, with African peoples of Portuguese heritage so that we can develp a community of cultures which would overcome market barriers and individual state interests, and in which foreign interests could not forcefully corrupt common basic values.

As I have already emphasized, we do not forget the continental responsibility of Brazil, which is absorbed in the huge task of developing itself and creating an area of progress and wealth--comparable to that which emerged in the Plate Basin during another era--within the Amazon region. However, a mere look at the extensiveness of Brazilian waters and the vast lands which are traversed with the greatest number of east-west and north-south meridians [segmentos] in the world leads us to ponder the effects [condicionantes] of evolution, so dear to history, in order to recall that, since the West is a product of a blending of cultures, Brazil has a principal role in the defense of its civilization.

Portugal is ready to contribute its best efforts to this task--directed mainly toward the cultural field. For us, the coexistence of peoples on different continents who speak the same language, regardless of regimes or political credos, is today's great challenge. Today, the eloquence of Vieira, the apostolic fervor of Anchieta and the ecumenical and pragmatic vision of Father Manuel da Nobrega--who were more Brazilian than Portuguese--should find a place in our continets in the same way the works of Euclides da Cunha, Oliveira Vianna, Gilberto Freyre or Sergio Buarque de Holanda should. They should serve as an example for the many who seriously and methodically search for the integrity which leads to the sovereignty of states.

Mr President,

Throughout history, our peoples have known how to distinguish ideologies from reality. That is to say, they have known how to distinguish what is transitory from that which is permanent, and how to maintain a model friendship. They did this knowingly--and if by chance they occasionally forgot those precepts, history quickly refreshed their memories. I just want to recall the political shortsightedness of the royal courts in 1821. They only wanted to defend their privileges, and they refused to go along with important socioeconomic changes, such as the ones resulting from the Industrial Revolution.

This narrowness of vision, which Brazilians did not accept, became the cause of other disturbances in the world's evolutionary process which the Portuguese discovered and helped to create.

Therefore, everything unites us and forces us to walk side by side if we are to achieve greater and greater integration within a more responsible, developed and secure pluralist system.

On our part, despite economic difficulties and certain political contradictions, I can assure Brazilians that Portugal has not lost its sense of national independence. We reject automatic acceptance of any "dominant ideology" which is not in agreement with our society and which does not even conceive of the slightest mimicry of consideration for the opinions of other cultures or other interests.

For this reason I believe that my country's position in the international forum today is a privileged one, and that it allows the strengthening of brotherly bonds which unite us with the great Brazilian nation, without the perplexities or reservations which sometimes momentarily interested in our history because of different outlooks.

Mr President,

The mutual effort and understanding which guided us toward the stabilization of existing conflicts--some of which had existed for some time--clearly demonstrate the political determination to encourage a climate favorable for beginning new joint ventures of mutual interest in the areas in which we are active.

Humanity is undergoing a period of transformation in structures and values which forecasts great changes. The existence of a human community scattered throughout countries on various continents, in which language is a bond which can unite or separate them, is a reality which cannot be disregarded. It surpasses all limits, including our own identities. Perhaps this will be our mission: to capture the meaning of the future which this reality contains:

Mr President,

In this country, where no Portuguese will ever consider himself a foreigner, I want to express my gratitude for the affectionate reception which Brazil has offered the Portuguese people through my wife and myself.

I ask everyone to join me in wishing good health and happiness for His Excellency President and Mrs Geisel, and to join in my hopes for social progress and peace for the Brazilian people, hailing its youth, its joy, its efforts and its greatness.

Long live Brazil.

Eanes on Cubans in Africa

PY241720Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1549 GMT 24 May 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 24 May--Portuguese President Antonio Ramalho Eanes declared here today that the Cuban presence in Africa is a matter that does not involve Portugal since these actions stem from decisions made by sovereign states, as in the case of Angola.

Portugal's only responsibility in the decolonization process in Africa was the creation of five new independent nations, the Portuguese chief of state added.

Eanes indicated that the solution to African problems is the concern of the Africans themselves, within the scope of organizations such as the OAU.

The Portuguese president, who made these statements at a press conference, stated that the African question had not been raised in the meetings held here on Monday and Tuesday.

Government Irritated Over Nationalization

PY242027Y Florianopolis Radio Diario da Manha in Portuguese 1515 GMT 24 May 78 PY

[Text] Portuguese presidential press adviser (Arturo Alves Conde) has said that the Brazilian Government showed irritation at the delay in solving the problems caused by nationalization [of Brazilian investments in Portugal]. (Alves Conde) asserted that internal Portuguese economic difficulties have hindred solution of the problems.

Congressional Session Honors Eanes

PY2403646Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 23 May 78 PY

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Excerpts] The National Congress held a special session this morning to honor Portuguese President Ramalho Eanes. The session, which was held in the plenary room of the Chamber of Deputies, was chaired by Senator Petronio Portella.

Speaking in the name of the Senate, MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement] Senator Gilvan Rocha [Sergipe State] stated that the presence of President Ramalho Eanes at the plenary session represented 850 years of history of the Portuguese fatherland, which was able to choose the unique path of free, popular representation on those unforgettable April days when freedom was restored.

Drawing a comparison between the Brazilian desire to restore the state of law and the Portuguese revolution, Rocha said:

[begin recording] In your country, Mr President, the legislative branch has achieved full powers, and you can obtain a clear idea of the desires of your people, who (?have overcome) a trial period. At the same time, you are clearing a straightforward, unique path of free, popular representation to develop fair legislation designed to build the future of your country.

Through wisdom, whose principal feature is an ideal combination of intellect and compassion, Portugal has chosen its path: a well-known path--which is tortuous sometimes, filled with detours, dangers and obstacles--but one which is fully valid today: a path which is increasingly difficult; the sure path of full democracy. [end recording]

Concluding, Senator Rocha stated that the economic difficulties which are troubling Portugal today cannot undermine the people's decision to defend their freedom, a decision which has become a lesson to the world.

Representing the Chamber of Deputies, Deputy Tulio Vargas [National Renewal Alliance, ARENA--Parana State] started his speech by quoting [former] President Costa e Silva: "In fact, we form one people, both in blood and spirit: We share brotherly feelings and the same way of life."

Vargas believes that Brazil and Portugal are so closely related that it would be possible to achieve not only rapprochement but also true integration, which has been a permanent goal of the two countries.

Emphasizing the unshakable historic courage shown by the Portuguese people in meeting challenges while sailing over the sea, Vargas also referred to the new Portugal which emerged from the April revolution.

[begin Vargas recording] This legislature has followed the military, revolutionary, political, and administrative action carried out by Your Excellency. Your action has truly reflected the Portuguese spirit because you have generously offered your fatherland your best abilities. Yet, it is important to state, Mr President, that apart from our joy, we should reflect on other matters because your visit was prompted by the desire to strengthen our cultural ties and our common goal to achieve economic prosperity. We thus feel that the objectives of our two countries are again interconnected, marked by an increase in the opening of new frontiers. [end recording]

In reply to the speeches made by the two representatives of the Brazilian Congress, General Eanes began by stating that his main task is the consolidation of the democratic state on the basis of freedom, pluralism and the separation of powers, increasingly broadening the areas of national reconciliation after so many years of intolerance and division.

Eanes Leaves Brasilia

PY241736Y Florianopolis Radio Diario da Manha in Portuguese 1515 GMT 24 May 78 PY

[Excerpt] Portuguese President Ramalho Eanes ended his visit to Brasilia this morning.

Eanes is now in Sao Paulo, following the schedule of his visit to Brazil. Eanes was welcomed at the airport by Governor Paulo Egydio Martins.

The positive result of Eanes' visit in the economic area was the increase in the lines of credit by $70 million to finance the purchase of Brazilian products by the Portuguese.

The proposals presented by the Portuguese delegation were not rejected but only a vague promise for further study was made.

The main Brazilian interest was to discuss the problems of Brazilian investments in Portugal affected by the nationalization after the 25 April movement.

O ESTADO Comments on Visit

PY250103Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 May 78 p 7 PY

[By Carlos Conde]

[Text] Brasilia--Portugal has invited Brazil, together with the African countries of Portuguese origin, to create a Luso-Afro-Brazilian community. The idea is old, but Portuguese President Gen Ramalho Eanes renewed it in his speech responding to President Ernesto Geisel's greeting at the banquet held in his honor at Itamaraty last night.

General Eanes said that the present situation shows the "urgent need to associate Brazilians and the Portuguese with African peoples of Portuguese origin so that a community of cultures may flourish."

After recognizing that Brazil has other more important prioritary projects in its foreign affairs, Eanes stressed the realism of his proposal by making an explicit reference to the Amazon Pact which, according to the general, involves a region which is to become a "Pole of progress and wealth" comparable to that which flourished in the River Plate Basin "in earlier times."

According to General Eanes, a tripartite coexistence of Brazil, Africa and Portugal could overcome "market barriers and the selfishness of states" and could prevent "foreign interests from perverting our basic common values by force." The reference to market barriers is a criticism of the current economic deadlock in the so-called North-South dialog between industrialized and developing countries. And the reference to foreign interests in the former Portuguese colonies which "pervert by force" our basic common values is a stab at current Soviet influence and Cuban troops, while in Portugal that reference is directed at recent communist influence.

The idea of a Luso-Afro-Brazilian community will pass into limbo. The Brazilian Government will not make the mistake of rejecting it publicly, but silence will have the impact of a negative answer. The official Brazilian position arises from an interest in acting on its own in Africa.

Brazilian strategists feel that the Portuguese proposal to create a community with Africa could be misunderstood in that continent at this moment. Brazil is already facing credibility barriers regarding its current anticolonialist position, after having supported the Portuguese colonialist policy in Africa for several decades. Brazilian Government experts are asking themselves whether that credibility problem would not be worsened if Brazil got too close to what was until recently the colonizer of those African countries.

Brazil agreed almost entirely with some points in the Portuguese position, and totally on the points regarding North-South relations and the Soviet-backed Cuban presence in Africa. The North—South question was stressed in the speech by President Geisel welcoming his visitor; and in the case of the Cuban troops, he also expressed his disapproval, but without the emphasis with which President Eanes opposes the Cuban presence in Angola and other African countries.

President Geisel's reference to Africa was discrete, and at no time did he even broach the possiblity of creating a community involving Brazil, Portugal and the African countries. The Brazilian president only devoted a short paragraph to African problems, merely saying that Brazil follows "with special interest" the new relations between Lisbon and the African countries. He then mentioned the main points of the Brazilian position regarding Africa: condemnation of apartheid and support for the right to self-determination of the people of Namibia and Zimbabwe (Rhodesia). The words "colonialism" and "anticolonialism" were prudently avoided in Geisel's speech.

With his moral authority as leader of the Portuguese Army, General Ramalho Eanes gave assurance to the Brazilian Government and particularly to the Brazilian Army: Portugal does not relate to prevailing ideologies in "automatic identification"--a phrase very similar to "automatic alinements," which Brazil rejects also. The Portuguese general was referring to his country's shifts to the left immediately after the 25 April revolution, adding that this tendency "was not in keeping with the spirit of our society." And he also said that he opposes "a misrepresentation which would only reflect the viewpoints of other cultures and other interests."

The different ways in which the two countries see Africa, and the conviction that historic and fraternal relations will always prevail over recent misunderstandings, were the two most important political aspects of President Eanes' first day in Brasilia. There was one more point, namely, the meeting of General Eanes and General Figueiredo, the official candidate to succeed President Geisel.

The Brazilian and Portuguese governments insist on their own versions of how that Eanes-Figueiredo meeting came about. Planalto Palace backs Itamaraty's version that the initiative was taken by Portugal, and the Portuguese delegation says that the meeting was held "at the request" of General Figueiredo.

It became obvious yesterday that any details regarding that meeting could create irritations. Late in the afternoon, the Portuguese Embassy was trying to find out who had released the information that the Eanes-Figueiredo meeting was to be held at 1815 yesterday and not today at 1500, as had been scheduled originally.

GUINEA-BISSAU'S SAUDE MARIA, AZEREDO DISCUSS VARIOUS ISSUES

PY241900Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 May 78 p 9 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Antonio Azeredo da Silveira and Victor Saude Maria, the Brazilian and Guinea-Bissau foreign ministers, yesterday reaffirmed their support to and solidarity with the southern African countries in their struggle for freedom, independence and human dignity. They expressed their concern over the situation in that part of the African Continent, emphasizing the need to meet the essential principles of self-determination, sovereignty and universal human rights.

During the working sessions carried out during the past 2 days, they discussed various political matters regarding international and bilateral relations. The two ministers acknowledged that they had similar points of view with regard to several issues. Silveira and Saude Maria reiterated the support of their governments for the principle of sovereign equality among states; for nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other countries; and for respect for territorial integrity and a country's right to independence.

The two foreign ministers expressed similar opinions regarding the development of the UN negotiations and disarmament. They admitted that the results obtained during the UN negotiations have been disappointing, especially in the nuclear area. Saude Maria fully supports the Brazilian position to be presented at the UN assembly, which reads as follows: The funds alloted for the manufacture of weapons should be channeled toward the economic and social progress of all nations, especially those which are trying to pull themselves out of the underdeveloped stage.

They also agreed that access to technology for peaceful purposes must be open to all nations which want to use it for their social, cultural and economic development. Nevertheless, they also agreed that appropriate safeguards must be implemented, as long as they are acceptable and nondiscriminatory. Regarding the UN special assembly on disarmament, which will begin next week, they indicated that it will be one of the most important events, and expressed their hope for the achievement of positive and productive results.

FRG REPORTEDLY REAFFIRMS NUCLEAR AGREEMENT

PY221935Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1745 GMT 22 May 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 22 May--Diplomatic sources here today revealed that the FRG affirmed that Brazil will obtain the enriched uranium for its nuclear program.

According to the sources, Georg Kastl, ambassador of the FRG in Brasilia, recently delivered a note to Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira from his government in which it guarantees the complete fulfillment of the clauses included in the nuclear agreement signed by the two countries in June 1975.

BONIFACIO, OTHERS COMMENT ON DISSIDENT CANDIDACIES

PY240305Y Florianopolis Radio Diario da Manha in Portuguese 1515 GMT 23 May 78 PY

[Text] The government leader in the Federal Chamber of Deputies, Jose Bonifacio, is not concerned about the rebel movement among ARENA [National Renewal Alliance] members in Sao Paulo and other states. He said that all 21 governors appointed by Planalto Palace will be elected at the ARENA convention to be held on 3 and 4 June.

Bonifacio termed as "dreamers" those who believe in the victory of dissident candidates, and explained that the convention will be carried out by deputies and delegates who do not want to quarrel with the government. Bonifacio, however, made one reservation: Any dissident candidate elected at the convention will assume his post only after being approved by the electoral college. Bonifacio feels that the government will not intervene in the state. He said the candidacy of Gen Euler Bentes Monteiro for the MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement] was normal, stressing that Bentes Monteiro is in no position to defeat General Figueiredo at the electoral college.

In Rio de Janeiro, Senator Magalhaes Pinto reaffirmed that he will continue to be a candidate for president. He made no comment on the candidacy of General Bentes Monteiro.

In Sao Paulo, Governor Paulo Egydio also declined comment on candidacies opposing Egydio's succession. He said that he did not discuss this subject with President Geisel when he visited Sao Paulo last week.

Afranio de Oliveira, chief of the Sao Paulo civil household, denied at Bandeirantes Palace that he had received instructions from General Rego Reis, chief of the military household, to discourage cnadidacies opposing that of Laudo Natel.

Claudio Lembo, president of Sao Paulo regional ARENA, called the appearance of dissident candidates the result of the democratic experience.

CONGRESS TO RECESS FOR STATE PARTY CONVENTIONS

PY200335Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 20 May 78 PY

[Text] Senator Eurico Rezende, government leader in the Senate, has reported that the National Congress will recess from 25 May to 11 (?June). During this period, congressmen will be able to attend their respective state party conventions. Rezende also believes that a special session of Congress may be held in July to discuss proposed institutional reforms.

INTERIOR MINISTRY REJECTS 14 APPLICATIONS TO RETURN

PY232230Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 May 78 PY

[Text] Exercising the power granted to him through Decree-Law No 81 of 1973, the interior minister has rejected 14 applications to return to the country.

The name of Prof (Arcalaud Coronel Araneda), former leader of the dissolved (?Zionist) Radical Party, is included among the rejected applications.

This report was included in a short communique released at noon today by the Interior Ministry with the complete list of the people affected. This measure was adopted to safeguard the country's internal security.

ALMEIDA SAYS SOCIALISTS PLAN TO RETURN FROM EXILE

PY231717Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1125 GMT 23 May 78 PY

[Text] Algiers, 23 May--Clodomiro Almeida, former Chilean foreign minister during Salvador Allende's socialist administration, announced here today that Chilean socialists and especially the leaders are planning to return to the country as soon as possible.

Almeida termed as a crude ploy the recent announcement on amnesty, made by Chilean President Augusto Pinochet. Such a decree, said Almeida, does not change the present regulation affecting exiles.

All of them, whether expelled, exiled or refugees, must request authorization from the Interior Ministry to return to the country, said Almeida.

The ministry therefore has the option of denying or granting the authorization, concluded Almeida.

AGREEMENT REACHED ON EAST BLOC LOAN RENEGOTIATION

PY202049Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0505 GMT 20 May 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 19 May--It was announced here today that Chile has reached an agreement with East European countries to renegotiate a $50-million loan which Chile received almost 6 years ago.

According to the Chilean Foreign Ministry, the negotiations held in Paris from Tuesday to Friday resulted in agreement on the fulfillment of this obligation which the government of former Socialist President Salvador Allende contracted in December 1972.

Chile's creditor is an East European consortium of Czechoslovak, Romanian, GDR, Hungarian, Polish, Bulgarian and USSR banks.

The Foreign Ministry indicated that this agreement is in line with Chile's policy of renegotiating the payment of its foreign debt to all the countries of the world.

PRESIDENT LOPEZ MICHELSEN DEFENDS FOREIGN POLICY DECISIONS

PA250331Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 78 PA

[Text] Cartagena--President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen has made a most vigorous defense of the negotiations with Portugal for the purchase of four corvettes. He angrily rejected criticism based on simple political passions in the matter and asked for the judgment of future generations on the defense of national sovereignty during his administration.

Speaking before a new graduating class of corvette lieutenants for the national navy, Lopez Michelsen demonstrated his competence as an internationalist and said among other things that the rights of free passage through the Panama Canal were never in danger. He added that it is not true that the country had excluded the possibility of a canal ever being constructed in Colombia by supporting the Panamanian cause because the project had been rejected several years ago due to its unsuitability, cost and even for strategic reasons.

Concerning the controversial negotiations with Portugal, he recalled the plans to renovate the navy's equipment and the conclusion reached that ships offered by Portugal were the most appropriate to patrol our oceans. He then explained the characteristics of the corvettes in order to dispel rumors, regretting that Portugal had finally decided not to sell the corvettes to Colombia. He angrily and indignantly rejected what he called a vicious accusation that the negotiators with Portugal--high-ranking officers of the three branches of the armed forces--were to reap millions of pesos in commissions if the ships were purchased from Portugal.

The Colombian Government declared today that it had never renounced the acquired right of free transit for its ships through the Panama Canal, but that it only renounced the use of the United States as an agent of our presumed imperialism. [sentence as heard] In his speech, President Lopez Michelsen said that his government's attitude in the face of the imminent U.S. return to Panama of its canal was beneficial. Instead of demanding that the United States act as our agent, we gave our full support to Panama in its aspirations and in the end managed to maintain the same privileges which the Urrutia-Thompson treaty, signed in 1914, granted us, said Lopez Michelsen.

The president also denied, as supposed internationalists have claimed, that Colombia has renounced any possiblity of constructing a canal in our country and explained how the United States, especially the Pentagon, had discarded that possibility. Those internationalists, said Lopez Michelsen sarcastically, should study these things more carefully so that they will not waste the time of others by offering criticism based only on the fruits of their ignorance.

The president was apparently referring to articles written by former Foreign Minister Alfredo Vasquez Carrizosa.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES DECREE TO PREVENT DISORDER ON ELECTION DAY

PA242142Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 May 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The national government today authorized governors, intendants and commissioners to adopt special security measures to forestall any disruption of public order on 4 June, the day of the presidential elections.

However, the regulation specifies that the departmental authorities must first consult the central government when the incidents occur and then implement the respective measures.

A government decree appoints 64 presidential delegates and gives authority to regional chiefs to appoint government agents in those municipalities or towns where circumstances require such appointments. The decree also establishes that the presidential delegates must be in the respective capitals on 2 June and that they must remain there until 6 June. The delegates will receive 800 pesos daily in travel allowance.

CALM RETURNS TO COASTAL CITIES; MILITARY CONTROL CONTINUES

PA250255Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 May 78 PA

[Text] Barranquilla--After 2 days of disturbances, calm returned today to Juan Mina, Tubara, Juan de Acosta and Piojo as the eastern road was reopened. Police reported that order has been restored in these four Atlantic municipalities which have witnessed since Monday a protest movement against inadequate public services and the abandonment of the so-called Cotton Highway [Carretera de Algodon].

In the meantime, the military mayor of Juan de Acosta, Sgt Teobaldo Barrios, took office this morning. He reported that there is complete calm in the area under his jurisdiction.

Despite normalcy in the capital of Antioquia today, local authorities ordered that security measures, which have been implemented in the past few days to prevent further disturbances, will remain in effect. Police sources reported that after the closing of the four major high schools in Medellin, calm returned to the city today.

It was also stated that military control over certain areas will continue indefinitely until the disruption of public order stops completely. The urban transportation service has also returned to normal with the necessary protection of the authorities.

BRIEFS

BELGIAN LOAN--Bogota--The Belgian Government today granted a loan of 20 million Belgian francs to Colombia. The loan contract was signed at noon today in the office of Finance Minister Alfonso Palacio Rudas. He said that the loan will be used to finance major infrastructure works. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 May 78 PA]

FOREIGN TRADE INCREASE--According to official Colombian Government figures, the country's foreign trade increased by 32.2 percent in 1977. The Economic Development Ministry said exports and imports amounted to a record $4.98 billion. Imports amounted to $2.6 billion, a 50-percent increase over 1974 and a 33.9-percent increase over 1976. The ministry noted that luxury articles accounted for only 3 percent of total imports. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 May 78 PA]

SUPREME ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL REGISTERS 14 PARTIES

PA202158Y Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 14 May 78 p 1 PA

[Excerpts] Quito--One of the most important phases of the specific mission of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal has almost concluded. This phase was the qualification and legal recognition of national political parties. The tribunal has definitively and conclusively decided on the recognition and registration of a total of 14 national political parties. The decision was made in line with the rules on the new elections and laws on political parties.

The Supreme Electoral Tribunal has recognized and decided on 13 applications for registration, presented, together with the necessary documents, by the leaders of 13 political parties which had been recognized and registered in 1969 by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal in accordance with the elections law then in effect.

The only reregistration application not accepted was that of the former Ecuadorean Independent Republican Party (PRIE), which was initially registered on 13 October 1969 by its founder and leader Vicente Levi Castillo, a former Guayaquil legistor. Castillo appealed the decision of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal and later asked that it be reconsidered. However, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal has flatly rejected both of these requests. The PRIE is now definitely eliminated from the political parties registry.

The following is a list of the political parties which have been reregistered, maintaining their old numerical order on the registry:

1. Ecuadorean Conservative Party [Conservador Ecuatoriano]
2. Radical Liberal Party
3. Ecuadorean Socialist Party
4. Concentration of Popular Forces (CFP)
5. Ecuadorean Nationalist Revolutionary Action (ARNE)
6. Social Christian Party
7. Popular Patriotic Party (PPP)
8. Democratic Institutionalist Coalition (CID)
9. People's Democratic Union (UDP)
10. Velasquist National Federation
11. Revolutionary Nationalist Movement
12. (initially vacant)
13. People's Revolutionary Leftist Action [Accion Izquierda Popular Revolucionaria] or National Guevarist Party

The new political parties accepted by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal are the Democatic Left and the Alfarist Radical Front (FRA). The Democratic Left has been assigned the numeral 12 in the registry, thus filling the vacancy left by PRIE, whose application was not accepted. The Alfarist Radical Front has been assigned the 14th numeral in the registry, the last numeral.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY SLATES ANNOUNCED

PA230202Y Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 May 78 p 1 PA

[Excerpt] Six presidential slates were registered by Monday. Raul Clemente Huerta and Arsenio Vivanco Neira are running for Liberalism, Abdon Calderon and Edgar Molina for the Alfarist Radical Front (FRA), Rodrigo Borja and Raul Baca Carbo for the Democratic Left, Sixto Duran Ballen and Jose Icaza for the Constitutionalist National Front, Rene Mauge and Anibal Munoz for the Leftwing Broad Front (FADI), and Jaime Roldos and Osvaldo Hurtado for the Concentration of Popular Forces (CFP).

All the candidates are supported by legally recognized political parties, which number 14. Duran Ballen is backed by 7, Huerta by 3 and Calderon, Borja, Mauge and Roldos, by 1 each.

SOVIET TECHNICIANS WILL ADVISE POLYTECHNICAL INSTITUTE

PA200253Y Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 14 May 78 p 5 PA

[Text] The Polytechnical High School of the Coast [Escuela Superior Politecnica del Litoral--ESPOL] will receive advice on its academic programs from Soviet experts, according to an agreement signed by ESPOL with the Soviet state enterprise Technoexport.

The experts, Victor Minko and Anatoliy V. Motoray, of Russian nationality, will help develop training programs for technical education in important fields involving the training of engineers, which is the institution's contribution to the country's production effort.

Their arrival was made possible by an agreement signed by ESPOL with Technoexport of Moscow. The two experts will work at the fisheries school developing new techniques for the exploitation of ocean resources.

They will remain in Ecuador for 1 year together with the two other Soviet technicians who were already at ESPOL helping to improve the teaching programs of the departments of geology, mining and petroleum and electrical engineering and the fisheries school.

The administrators of the polytechnical institution have filed requests for the entry of the Soviet citizens into Ecuador based on the needs of the institution and taking into account the beginning of the new school year at the institute for higher education.

COMMERCIAL TIES WILL BE RESUMED WITH CUBA

PA240445Y Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 17 May 78 p 9 PA

[Text] Quito--Central Bank General Manager Rodrigo Espinoza Bermeo has returned to the country after having signed a payments agreement with the Havana National Bank in the Cuban socialist republic.

The signing of this document virtually opens commercial relations between the two countries. Trade was interrupted in 1961 when former President Carlos Julio Arosemena Monroy terminated it because of congressional pressure.

SITUATION RETURNS TO NORMAL; END OF STRIKE EXPECTED

Strike Called 'Complete Success'

PA241329Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1225 GMT 24 May 78 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 24 May (LATIN)--Life was slowly returning to normal today in this striken capital following 2 days of street violence that left a toll of at least four dead and scores of persons wounded, mostly by gunshot.

It is felt that the curfew, imposed at the end of the first day of the 48-hour general strike which virtually paralyzed all Peru, will be lifted today, as predicted by military sources last night. They added, however, that the state of emergency and suspension of constitutional guarantees imposed on Friday will probably not be lifted for the time being.

Some trade union spokesmen told foreign correspondents last night that it is impossible to continue the strike indefinitely.

Political circles were optimistic about a normalization of activities beginning today based on the fact that Peruvian workers, who have been plagued by strict austerity measures during these last 8 months, are not in a position to remain on strike indefinitely.

The trade union spokesmen said that an alternative would be to return to work for a few days "to recharge the batteries" prior to beginning an indefinite strike.

Whatever happens in the next few days, the strike to protest increases in the prices of staples has been a complete success, according to political circles in this capital. The strike virtually paralyzed Lima, a city of 5 million inhabitants, and most of the cities in the interior, despite the statement by President Francisco Morales Bermudez that the latest rash of austerity measures was a grim but unavoidable necessity.

A government spokesman told foreign correspondents yesterday that steps are being considered to ease the situation of the poorer sectors of Peruvian society.

The situation in the provincial capitals and cities is not quite clear because of difficulties in communications arising from the fact that many telephone lines were sabotaged. However, sporadic acts of violence were reported in several places.

Lima Curfew Extended

PA241426Y Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1300 GMT 24 May 78 PA

[Text] Lima is returning to normal as the 48-hour strike concludes. There were some outbreaks of violence yesterday which forced the police to take strong action. The curfew was advanced 2 hours and is now in effect from 2200 through 0500 the following day. In Ica, a curfew was established from 2200, while in Huancavelica, it was established from 2100.

Public transportation vehicles were seen early this morning as efforts were made to reestablish normal transportation services along eight routes. Private drivers in Lima have been authorized to offer public transportation. Airports throughout the country were again operating and all flights resumed their normal schedules.

Yesterday the Lima-Chosica telephone line was the target of sabotage. The telephone company is already repairing the line along the central highway near the 22-km post. The government announced that the supply of electricity is normal throughout the country.

The president of the industrialists association, Juan Aguirre Roca, has estimated that the manufacturing industry has lost 1.2 billion soles as a result of the strike. Aguirre Roca added he deeply regrets this loss at such a critical time for the national economy.

Meanwhile, the chief of public relations of the army has told the daily EL COMERCIO that the safety of citizens and normal operation of basic services to the people will be protected by the national security plan.

Workers Return to Jobs

PY250342Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 May 78 PY

[Summary] Most of the cities in the interior returned to their normal activities today. All workers in the industrial and services sectors returned to their jobs.

In Lima and Callao, reports indicate that almost everything had returned to normal. Public administration vehicles began circulating early this morning and public transportation has returned to normal.

The government has announced that those workers who tried to get to work but could not will not lose their wages.

Authorities in Lima and Callao reminded the population that the 2200-0500 curfew continues in force and that the armed forces and police will strictly enforce it.

FOREIGN, DOMESTIC CAPITAL SOUGHT FOR MINING PROJECTS

PY181457Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 May 78 PY

[Text] Energy and Mines Minister Gen Juan Sanchez Gonzalez yesterday announced that Peru is open to national and foreign private investment for the financing of important mining projects.

The minister asserted that currently we exploit only 12 percent of our reserves and the participation of private investors is necessary in order to exploit the rest. He also said that Mineroperu is the enterprise which has the specific duty of receiving offers and acting aggressively so that the mining projects are implemented as soon as possible.

EDUCATION MINISTER MEETS WITH PRC JOURNALISTS

PY231753Y Lima Radio Cronica in Spanish 1155 GMT 23 May 78 PY

[Text] The education minister today [as heard] met with the PRC journalists who are visiting Peru. General Revoredo emphasized his belief that Peruvian sports will greatly benefit from the cooperation of PRC sports experts. The minister stated that the PRC has excellent sports experts and that the maintenance of this cooperation was very important for the development of Peru's sports policy. General Revoredo explained to the visitors the basic guidelines of Peru's educational reform and stressed that education is very important for advancement in life.

PRESIDENT PEREZ HAILS RESULTS OF AMAZON MEETING

PA231551Y Caracas Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1244 GMT 23 May 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 22 May (VENPRES) --Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez has defended the Amazon Pact because he feels that the pact gives the small countries the right "to use the river navigation resources for the development of the economies of the countries which form part of the Amazon Basin."

Perez made the statement in response to a question from a newsman during a news conference held on Margarita Island, to which Perez traveled over the weekend to inaugurate and inspect government works in this important area in Venezuela's eastern region.

The question was asked by the newsman because the third preparatory meeting on multilateral cooperation in the Amazon region closed here on the 19th. The meeting was attended by delegations from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Surinam and Venezuela.

The meeting unanimously approved the draft of the treaty on Amazon cooperation to be signed by the foreign ministers of the participating countries at a meeting scheduled to be held in Brasilia during the first week of July.

The Venezuelan chief of state expressed satisfaction over the results obtained during the deliberations and congratulated the participants for making every effort "so that the decisions that were adopted would be, as in effect they were, the result of a consensus, reflecting the common desire of the parties to seek formulas for a joint utilization of the resources of the Amazon."

MINISTERS COMMENT ON DOMINICAN SITUATION

PA242152Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 May 78 PA

[Text] Information and Tourism Minister Celestino Armas has stated that the meeting held at Miraflores Palace on Sunday regarding the Dominican situation was discussed during the cabinet meeting.

He said that Venezuela has already reaffirmed its leadership in Latin America and in the Third World as the main pillar in defense of democracy. He stressed that a hemispheric reaction has been achieved thanks to the efforts of President Perez and all the sectors of the country and that this reaction has permitted respect for the will of the Dominican people.

Asked about the possibility of Venezuela's imposing economic sanctions on the Dominican Government, Armas said that there are no economic sanctions in force against the Dominican Government at the present time and that the issue has never been raised. What Venezuela wanted to do was to tell the world that it has progressed under democracy and that democracy is the best system of government and the best lifestyle currently known in the world.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Octavio Lepage has stated that the Venezuelan Government does not want to interfere in the domestic affairs of any country. The minister was replying to a request for his opinion on the remarks made by Dominican politician Juan Bosch, who stated that the Venezuelan position is one of interference. Juan Bosch is not right, Lepage said. His remarks reveal that he does not understand the position of Venezuela and other democratic governments in Latin America regarding the vote count process in the Dominican Republic.

The attitude of Venezuela and other countries, including the United States, has had a decisive influence in the development of events in the Dominican Republic and it is almost certain that the vote count will be completed and its outcome will be respected.

PRD TELEGRAM THANKS PEREZ FOR SUPPORTING GUZMAN

PA221948Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 22 May 78 PA

[Text] According to official sources in Miraflores Palace, the representatives of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] in Venezuela have sent a telegram to President of the Republic Carlos Andres Perez. In their telegram the PRD representatives express appreciation for Perez' solidarity with the party's candidate, Antonio Guzman. Moreover, they claim that Guzman has already obtained 1.3 million votes while Balaguer has garnered only 475,000.

ARRIA ANNOUNCES INDEPENDENT PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

PA221947Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 22 May 78 PA

[Text] Diego Arria has officially announced that he will be an independent presidential candidate. He thus becomes the eighth presidential candidate. He has stated that he will not go to the public plazas to bellow promises as he would rather talk to Venezuelans as a family. He added that his candidacy will not be negotiated with anybody, for any reason and under no circumstances. He said that the moment has arrived to seek a new leadership that will unite all the people in the country in a common cause.

NEW GOVERNMENT BROADCASTING STATION ANNOUNCED

PA171451Y Caracas Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1205 GMT 17 May 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 16 May (VENPRES)--A broadcasting station with the largest coverage in Latin America will be set up in the area of Paraguana, Falcon State, in northwestern Venezuela, with 1,000 kilowatts of power.

The announcement was made by Venezuelan Information and Tourism Minister Celestino Armas, who said the station, which is to be state owned, might cover countries of the Caribbean, Central American and Andean Pact areas.

The estimated time lapse for the first test is 10 months and the total cost, including equipment, installation and land, will be about 15 million bolivares.

BRIEFS

JOINT VENTURE WITH BOLIVIA--Bolivia and Venezuela have founded their first binational enterprise with an initial capital of $2 million. The new firm will process food products, basically corn, peanuts, plantains, nuts, (cacao) and sugar. The firm will be set up in Viacha, Bolivia. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 May 78 PA]

ECONOMIC INTEGRATION WITH COLOMBIA--The Venezuelan branch of the Colombo-Venezuelan Economic Integration Chamber was established with Franklin Briceno as its president. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 12 May 78 PA]

FEP HOLDS CEREMONY TO COMMEMORATE 1958 INCIDENTS

PA240035Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 May 78 PA

[Text] Yesterday evening there was a popular ceremony to recall the heroic actions of the student movement of May 1958. The ceremony took place at the University of Panama's auditorium.

The event was organized by the glorious Federation of Panamanian Students [FEP] with the support of several labor unions and professional sectors. The various social classes in the country were represented at the ceremony. The event was also attended by student leaders of the 1950's and by university student delegations from Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Captain Aristides Baldonedo represented the National Guard staff at this ceremony to pay homage to the students who fell in the tragic events of May 1958. The National Guard officer said at the ceremony that the National Guard has changed and it is not the same repressive organization it was in 1958. He also noted that a great social advancement was achieved with the revolutionary movement of 1968. However, he noted, our struggle cannot cease as long as there are obstacles to the development of the nation.

The armed forces and the popular movement must march together and must not be confronted again by the old oligarchy, Captain Baldonedo stated. He said that the victory achieved through the new Torrijos-Carter treaties is the result of this unity and that it should serve as an example. He said that this achievement must lead to others for the benefit of our country.

Mario Panther, secretary general of FEP, recalled the heroism of those who died in May 1958, when the student movement was demanding more schools and a better educational system.

FEP has not stopped struggling for liberty, the student leader said. He noted that the memory of the dead students is present in all our efforts against backwardness and exploitation. Panther stated that it is important that the whole nation follow the path of dignity that Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera has opened. For this reason, he said forcefully, it is necessary to fight administrative corruption and to strengthen the political organization of our people.

Students Stage Demonstration

PA221945Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1520 GMT 22 May 78 PA

[Text] Panama City, 22 May (ACAN-EFE)--Several thousand Panamanian students held a demonstration here today demanding reforms and democratization in education and increased participation of the people in the "revolutionary process" in Panama.

This morning's demonstration was called to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the death of student Jose Manuel Arauz, who died when asking for improved education conditions.

The demonstration proceeded along this capital's main avenues and ended at the central Porras Plaza. It lasted almost 2 and 1/2 hours.

Rally Results in Incidents

PA232347Y Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 22 May 78 pp 1, 4A PA

[Text] This morning, persons who infiltrated a student movement provoked a series of incidents along Central Avenue, especially in the area known as La Cuchilla. These persons took advantage of a rally held by high school students and the Federal Executive Council of the Federation of Panamanian Students [FEP] who were commemorating this year's anniversary of the 1958 events.

LA REPUBLICA reporters on Central Avenue witnessed the damage that these elements caused to the Victoria Jewelry Shop and to a furniture store on Peru Avenue.

The student rally had been called for 0730 this morning across from the Foreign Ministry building. Groups from various high schools were on hand for the rally. Luis Gomez, an FEP leader, and Mario Panther, secretary general of FEP, also participated in the rally.

A student told LA REPUBLICA that a group of students from the arts and crafts school was infiltrated by "ultra" elements and that the group decided to march through Central Avenue to hold a meeting and then go to the presidential palace. This resulted in a separation of students at Porras Square. The arts and crafts students have denied participating in the jewelry shop and furniture store incidents and have mentioned the names of some groups of the so-called "ultra."

Meanwhile, students belonging to the Revolutionary Students Front (FER) of the national institute who have been questioned in connection with the incidents have also denied having anything to do with them.

FEP Secretary General Panther has told the news media that this morning's incidents were caused by persons who are not students, but so far there is no explanation as to how they happened to be wearing student uniforms if they were not students. Panther said that elements of the "ultra" were directly involved in today's incidents.

Some 2 hours later, a student rally took place peacefully across from the Foreign Ministry building while other students marched along Central Avenue to go first to Santa Ana Park and later to the presidential palace, according to what an art student said, in order to discuss with the authorities the most urgent needs of that school.

Some of these incidents, which had no further consequences, created spectacular traffic jams in the most important streets of this capital and some business shops along Central Avenue were closed.

ASYLUM OFFERED TO NICARAGUAN EXILED IN HONDURAS

PA221708Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 21 May 78 pp 1, 26 PA

[Text of Panamanian Foreign Ministry note dated 19 May 1978 sent to Honduran Embassy in Panama City]

[Text] The Foreign Relations Ministry presents courteous greetings to the honorable Embassy of the Republic of Honduras and has the honor of informing that honorable embassy of the following: The national government has decided for humanitarian reasons to give asylum to German Pomares, a Nicaraguan citizen with a well-known political career who, we are informed, is at present in the hands of Honduran authorities.

The minister of foreign relations thanks the ambassador for transmitting this note to the respective authorities of the illustrious Honduran Government and for all the steps within the reach of Your Excellency leading to Mr Pomares' arrival in Panamanian territory.

The Foreign Relations Ministry takes this opportunity to repeat to the honorable Embassy of the Republic of Honduras its assurances of its highest and most distinguished consideration. [sentence as published]

COLUMNIST PRAISES U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE

PA230238Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 22 May 78 p 6A PA

["Juzgue el Pueblo" column by Ricardo Lince]

[Text] Among the persons accompanying President Carter on his coming visit to Panama for the exchange of the ratification documents of the Panama Canal treaties, in the frontline will be Secretary of State Cyrus Robert Vance, one of the present administration's officials who is best informed on the Panama Canal operation and best equipped to interpret the Panamanian people's feelings.

In July 1962, almost 16 years ago, he was a member of the Panama Canal Company Board of Directors and, as secretary of the army, had also been a former general counsel to the Department of Defense and belonged to the Simpson, Thacher and Bartlett law firm in New York.

With this background and in the role of adviser to the U.S. Department of Defense, Vance said 16 years ago to the Panamanian press that "the continued success of the canal has been possible due to half a century of cooperation and good will between the United States and the Republic of Panama." Along the same lines, he expanded his statements by saying: "The invaluable contribution of the canal as a bridge for world trade is well known, but today I am impressed by its additional significance in inter-American development and friendship."

Since that time, as shown by his participation in the treaties as secretary of state, Vance has been concerned, as a vital matter in the operation of the canal, with the existing good will between Panama and the United States and the additional significance of the development of inter-American friendship, two major factors in the decisions of both the executive branch and the U.S. Senate.

It was for this reason that many of the desperate efforts of the circle of opponents, those who wanted to maintain the status quo in the canal, failed. The President's top assistant, the man responsible for his foreign policy, is a U.S. lawyer who knows well all the policies and strategies of the Pentagon as well as the inner workings of the canal operation, and has a firm understanding of the importance of good will between both countries and inter-American development and friendship.

Upholding his beliefs, Vance supported justice for Panama in his role as adviser to Carter. If Panama has not obtained everything, at least it has attained the quota of achievements for this generation on the road to liberation, sovereignty and independence without canal commitments, although we still have a long way to go.

LA REPUBLICA DEFENDS CUBAN AID TO AFRICA

FL241723Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 May 78 FL

[Text] The evening paper LA REPUBLICA in Panama City comments that the United States is maintaining an anti-Cuba campaign to try to show that the Cuban presence in Africa threatens world peace and security. The paper asserts that the Cubans who are in African countries went there at the request of the governments concerned to help guarantee their national independence and repel the armed attacks against those states.

Thanks to Cuba, the Panamanian newspaper stresses, Angola was able to repel the South African aggression and save its independence. Thanks to Cuba, the Ethiopian people crushed the Somali invasion in a brief period of time.

The paper emphasizes that Cuba not only provides military assistance to African progressive forces but also technical assistance to solve the problems of health, education and economic backwardness inherited from the past.

WORKERS PROTEST 'MACHINATIONS' IN UNION ELECTIONS

PA200919Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 19 May 78 pp 1, 26 PA

[Text] A bomb could go off at any time in the vicinity of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification (IRHE) if the warning contained in the 35th issue of the bulletin EL RAPIDO is true. The bulletin is published by the labor union of the official agency. The warning urges the National Guard General Staff "to prevent ranking officials from meddling in trade union matters." This situation has been deteriorating.

In the bulletin, the current union leaders report what they good-naturedly call machinations by the IRHE leaders, noting that ranking officials asked for voting results to be challenged and provided transportation and readily granted permits to one group while subjecting another group to unjust pressures.

On the other hand, Mr Julio Cesar Acosta, employee of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, was the "busiest" government official yesterday when CRITICA reporters asked him for an interview on the case of fraud [paquetazo] in the IRHE trade union elections.

CRITICA reporters tried to talk to Acosta, but it was impossible because, according to his secretary, he was attending a "meeting" and he would not receive anybody in his office during the day.

When she was asked where such a "diligent" public servant could be found, she answered: "In this office we are not in the practice of saying where Mr Acosta is. If you wish, you can come back some other day because he will be in a very important meeting today and he will not be back."

In other words, there was complete silence in Julio Cesar Acosta's office yesterday concerning his whereabouts because, in spite of the visits and telephone calls he received, his secretary was unable to say where he could be located. In the meantime, speculation concerning his alleged involvement in the rigged elections of the IRHE trade union continues to the enormous detriment of the agency he works for.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON DOMINICAN SITUATION

PA241857Y San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 20 May 78 p 4 A PA

[Text] Two newsmen were invited last night to a news conference at the office of Jose Rafael Cordero Croceri, the minister of the presidency, who informed them of Costa Rica's position regarding the Dominican Republic. Minister Cordero said that, since tne beginning of the situation related to the elections in that country, our government has followed with interest the course of developments. Foreign Relations Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier has been in contact with Colombia, the United States, Panama and Venezuela. Minister Cordero said that under President Rodrigo Carazo's instructions the following communique was issued last night:

"In view of the existing situation in the Dominican Republic resulting from the presidential elections last Tuesday, 16 May, the Costa Rican Government, supported by the illustrious governments of Colombia, the United States, Panama and Venezuela, reiterates its position of profound respect for the right of nations to free elections and self-determination in choosing their ruler, inasmuch as the harmony, development and strengthening of the sister nations of America, within the guidelines established by man's fundamental rights, depend on the respect of these rights.

"Costa Rica has appointed Jose Rafael Echeverria ambassador to the OAS in order to promote this policy in that organization."

San Jose, 19 May 1978

PVP CRITICIZES CARAZO'S POLICY TOWARD SOCIALIST BLOC

PA242145Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1731 GMT 24 May 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 24 May (ACAN-EFE)--President Rodrigo Carazo's foreign policy toward the socialist bloc has been criticized by the Popular Vanguard Party (PVP) (communist), which has described it as stupid and harmful to Costa Rican interests. An editorial in the last edition of LIBERTAD, the PVP's official weekly, analyzes Carazo's decision to "freeze," that is, to neither promote or break, relations with communist governments.

According to the editorial, "no civilized country at present bases its international relations on ideological or political prejudices. International relations should be based on reasons of convenience. Diplomacy based on prejudices is outdated diplomacy."

According to the voice of the communist party, Carazo is aware of this reality but is acting the way he does only to please his party's rightwing and the U.S. Department of State. "Mr Carazo has not reached the point of breaking relations with the socialist countries, as his party's rightwing and the department of state would like," the editorial continues, "but although the path he has taken does not represent a break, it certainly represents a cooling. We will now be even more dependent on U.S. markets and banks."

BRIEFS

DIPLOMATIC ADVISER NAMED--Abundio Gutierrez Matarrita has been appointed adviser to the president for diplomatic strategy. He had been ambassador to Nicaragua but resigned to work on the past political campaign. [San Jose Cadea de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 1720 GMT 20 May 78 PA] [SERCANO Network]

PRESS WORKERS COOPERATIVE--The Labor Ministry has issued its approval for the establishment of the Cooperative of Press Workers [Cooperativa de Trabajadores de la Prensa], which will edit and publish newspapers and magazines and found a printing and publishing house. The cooperative's administrative council is composed of former employees of the newspaper EXCELSIOR. [San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 1720 GMT 20 May 78 PA] [SERCANO Network]

EL SALVADOR

KIDNAPERS STATE DEMANDS FOR HOSTAGE'S RELEASE

PA250348Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2313 GMT 24 May 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 24 May (LATIN)--The newspapers LA PRENSA GRAFICA and EL DIARIO DE HOY today published paid announcements from the family of the kidnaped industrialist Fujio Matsumoto as part of the demands made by the Armed Forces of National Resistance [FARN] for the release of the kidnaped industrialist. The three principal conditions, including full-page advertisements in the two newspapers, are the release of 33 political prisoners, general amnesty for the prisoners on trial under the law for the defense and guarantee of public order, and the abolition of this law.

One of the principal paragraphs of the paid advertisement states: "The government's activities contrast with the activities of the guerrillas in that in our case, after capturing three members of the bourgeoisie since 1977, we treated them with respect based on the principles established in the Geneva convention regarding prisoners of war and we released the prisoners at the conclusion of the negotiations without torturing them psychologically or physically."

Sources close to the investigation of the Matsumoto kidnaping said that the comparison established by the FARN constitutes a message indicating that the captive will be released once the kidnapers' demands are met.

The communique, which identifies Matusomoto's kidnapers only as National Resistance (RN) and not as FARN, states that the industrialist kidnaped on Wednesday last week is a representative of economic imperialism which, according to the group, is disputing economic and political power with the United States.

Meanwhile, it was learned in San Salvador that Matsumoto's kidnapers are also demanding a $4-million ransom in addition to the political demands already listed, according to sources close to the investigation.

Exchange of Prisoners Rejected

OW230327Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0325 GMT 23 May 78 OW

[Excerpts] San Salvador, May 22 KYODO--A spokesman for the El Salvador Government rejected Tuesday a demand by kidnapers for the freedom of political prisoners in the country. He reiterated the government's position that there exist no political prisoners in the country. The spokesman told KYODO NEWS SERVICE the government has pledged cooperation with the Japanese Governmentin investigating the kidnaping of a Japanese businessman by the Maoist radical group.

The spokesman said the government has no intention of complying with the radicals' demands.

The spokesman read a government message to the Japanese people, expressing regret over the case.

GUATEMALA

REPORT OF PIPELINE CONCESSION DENIED

PA2419417 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0453 GMT 24 May 78 PA

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 23 May (ACAN-EFE)--The Guatemala office of the Keating Corporation of New Orleans today, Tuesday night, denied having obtained from the government a concession to build a transoceanic oil pipeline. News that the concession had already been granted by the Guatemalan Government to the firm PACAT, which represents enterprises connected with the oil business, was carried today by the Mexican newspaper UNO MAS UNO.

The office which represents Keating Corporation here, when consulted, categorically denied it had been granted a concession, adding instead that negotiations "are at a standstill because of the imminent transfer of power."

It also disclosed that Guatemala was chosen for the transoceanic oil pipeline project, to be built between Puerto Barrios on the Atlantic side and San Jose on the Pacific, because of its economic and political stability and because of the permanent parity of its currency (quetzal) with the U.S. dollar.

Keating Corporation's office in Guatemala explained that Keating Corporation is only acting as an intermediary in the transoceanic oil pipeline project. It denied having a direct or active role in the negotiations.

HONDURAS

NATIONAL PARTY PROPOSES DATE FOR 1979 ELECTIONS

PA2418007 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 24 May 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] The National Party of Honduras last night announced that it is going to ask the National Electoral Tribunal to set 15 March 1979 as the date for beginning the process for the election of deputies to the constituent assembly and the second Sunday in August of the same year as the day of elections. The purpose of the request is to facilitate as soon as possible a return to legal procedures and to enable the armed forces to fulfill their promise that elections will be held in Honduras in 1979.

NICARAGUA

NOVEDADES DEFENDS SOMOZA'S SOCIAL REFORMS

PA2504167 Managua NOVEDADES in Spanish 20 May 78 pp 2, 41 PA

[Text] The six social reforms offered by the president of the republic to the workers of the country are:

1. A 13th month of wages for public, private and military employees;

2. Social security for rural workers;

3. Social security for maids;

4. Civil service law;

5. Obligation for businessmen to be current in the payment of benefits to be considered for financing and qualifications [habilitaciones] by state or private banks;

6. Trade union rights.

The newspaper LA PRENSA is lying when it says that the social reforms to be forwarded to the National Congress for approval exclude trade union rights. It is trying maliciously to confuse the partial amendment to the constitution on the political opening which allows for the free organization of parties of all influences and ideologies with trade union rights.

Asked about this, Labor Minister Dr Justo Garcia Aguilar told us that "trade union rights will be considered in a special law which will establish bylaws for Article 70 of the constitution, which states: "Unions or associations may be set up for any legal purpose. However, it is up to the state to authorize corporate, moral, economic, scientific and tecnnical organizations."

This article of the Nicaraguan constitution will be implemented by the special law authorizing trade union rights which will establish as a single requirement the registration of any new union with the Ministry of Labor. This registration would amount to the state's authorization as required by constitutional Article 70.

In an attempt to tone down the importance of these profound social reforms, which in fact create new structures in the country, LA PRENSA hints that President Somoza might add trade union rights to Article 105, Chapter 4 of the current constitution, which sets guidelines on workers' guarantees.

This would violate the constitution because said article is not contained in the partial reform already approved by the National Congress.

BRIEFS

INCREASED COTTON PRODUCTION--Jorge Savany Rivera, executive secretary of the Nicaraguan National Cotton Commission, has said that the 1977-78 cotton crop produced 545,000 bales of cotton or 20,000 more than the previous year. He added that most of this cotton has been exported and there are only 13,602 bales awaiting shipment. This year the price of cotton showed a $2.50 increase per hundredweight. [Managua NOVEDADES in Spanish 17 May 78 p 46 PA]

RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ, DELEGATION ARRIVE IN NEW YORK

FL241153Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 24 May 78 FL

[Excerpt] Cuban Council of State Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez has arrived at the United Nations at the head of a Cuban delegation to the General Assembly extraordinary session on disarmament. The Cuban delegation includes Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Viera and Cuban UN Permanent Representative Ambassador Raul Roa Kouri. The Cuban leader will speak next week in the assembly's general discussion and will meet with several people attending the event.

Meets Andrew Young

FL250033Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 78 FL

[Text] United Nations--Andrew Young, U.S. ambassador and U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, this morning was received at the Cuban mission to the international organization by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Council of State and Council of Ministers. During the meeting Ambassador Young explained to the Cuban vice president the position of the United States on the problem of Namibia. He also discussed other international issues.

Young went to the meeting accompanied by his advisers Stoney Cooks and John D. Blacken. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez was accompanied by Raul Roa Kouri, Cuban ambassador and Cuban permanent representative to the United Nations, and Teofilo Acosta of the Cuban Special Interest Section in Washington.

COMMENTATOR EXAMINES MEXICAN PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO USSR

FL250058Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 78 FL

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] The visit of Jose Lopez-Portillo, president of the United States of Mexico, to the Soviet Union, which concludes today in Leningrad, has been made within the framework of an aggravation of the arms race in the world under the impetus of the United States. That is why it is highly significant that the Mexican president expressed the following during the banquet in the Kremlin in his honor: We come to speak of peace with a nation that has suffered the worst destruction of war and which has been outstanding in its constant initiatives for disarmament, detente and coexistence.

Mexico, with an area of 1.92 million square km and nearly 65 million inhabitants, is one of the countries of this continent that has suffered greatly from acts of aggression, plundering and abuses by North American imperialism. The Mexicans, when referring to that demagogic Yankee slogan on the good neighbor policy, usually say that they are the good ones and the North Americans are only neighbors.

Direct foreign investments amount to $5 billion in Mexico. The public and foreign debt exceeds $35 billion, most of it contracted with 99 private banks of the United States. Forty-five percent of the capital of the 500 largest Mexican enterprises belongs to transnational corporations, most of them North American. Amid this situation, it is not strange that President Lopez-Portillo, on the eve of this trip to the Soviet Union, condemned the negative role which these transnational corporations play not only in Mexico but also throughout the so-called Third World.

The trip to a great extent also responds to a desire to expand markets in the socialist camp since two-thirds of Mexican trade currently is done with the United States. Moreover, the Mexicans can find profound differences between trade with the United States and trade that can be developed with a socialist country, such as the Soviet Union, based on principles of genuine mutual benefits, full equality and peaceful coexistence. This visit by Lopez-Portillo to the Soviet Union also helps to confirm that there exists a real possibility to develop productive cooperation between states with different political, economic and social systems.

The desperate efforts which the ideological services of the Washington government are making to feed anti-Soviet myths in Latin America are weakened by this independent attitude of the Mexican Government. The Soviet press has recalled in recent days that Mexico was the first country on this continent to establish relations with the young Soviet state that emerged from the October Revolution despite the fact that the big stick policy prevailed in those days and Yankee military interventions in Veracruz and in northern Mexico were still fresh. Furthermore, the Soviet Union always has taken a step forward in solidary support for Mexico during difficult moments such as the nationalization of the oil industry by Lazar Cardenas on 18 March 1938 and in defense of trade and economic rights of that country.

For all the aforementioned reasons, Lopez-Portillo's visit to the Soviet Union, aside from any other significance that may be attributed to it, constitutes an important contribution to the peoples' struggle for peace, international justice and coexistence.

COMMITTEE DECIDES ON YOUTH FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS

FL242340Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 May 78 FL

[Text] At its 17th ordinary meeting this afternoon, the permament committee of the international preparatory commission for the 11th World Youth and Student Festival approved the total number of participants in the festival and their distribution by continents and countries. The committee decided that 2,834 youths from Africa, 3,851 from America, 6,936 from Europe, 815 from the Middle East and 1,570 from Asia will attend. The total of participants in the 11th festival will be 16,000. It was also decided at today's meeting to send a letter to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, to whom the members of the permanent committee convey their greetings and invite him to participate in the 11th World Youth and Student Festival. The letter refers to the history of festivals and their objectives and goals. It also states that the struggle of the world's progressive youths is identified with UN tasks and that the 11th festival will be a propitious forum to fulfill them.

MONTANE SPEAKS AT FMC SEMINAR IN HAVANA

FL242016Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2002 GMT 24 May 78 FL

[Text] Jesus Montane, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of its Department for Servicing Mass Organizations, today underscored the importance of the work, organization and internal activities of the Federation of Cuban Woman--FMC--so as to attain higher quality work in all fronts, the party leader was making a special presentation at the FMC national seminar on organization and education being held until Friday at the Fe del Valle cadre school in Havana. Jesus Montane said that the standards and methods being taught at the seminar represent important tools to strengthen the internal activities of the organization. Lastly, the PCC Central Committee member reiterated that the party is confident that the FMC will accomplish the new tasks that have been established.

DATE NOT YET ANNOUNCED FOR ELECTORAL BOARD DECISION

FL242214Y Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish to Listeners Abroad 2156 GMT 24 May 78 FL

[Text] Santo Domingo--Although daily activities had been completely reestablished yesterday, [words indistinct] continued paralyzed because the votes [actas] from municipalities which have not been officially counted have not arrived at the Central Electoral Board. There is no idea when the Central Electoral Board will be prepared to make an official proclamation on the winning candidates.

Meanwhile, attendance at political party offices has dropped to a minimum in the past few days. Party offices, including that of the Reformist Party, have remained almost deserted, with only some leaders going to them.

RULING PARTY CHALLENGES ELECTION RESULTS IN TWO TOWNS

FL242224Y Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish to Listeners Abroad 2156 GMT 24 May 78 FL

[Text] Santo Domingo--The Senate president has announced that the Reformist Party has challenged the election results in the municipalities of Monte Plata and Sabana Grande de Boya in San Cristobal Province. Dr Adriano Uribe Silva said the challenge was due to what he described as serious irregularities that took place there during the voting process. Uribe Silva added that the challenge was presented to the San Cristobal Municipal Electoral Board on Monday and proof was submitted to justify the challenge. The Reformist leader did not disclose the details of such proof.

FORMER PRESIDENT BOSCH DISCUSSES PRESENT CRISIS

FL241120Y Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 May 78 FL

[Text] The president of the Dominican Liberation Party [PLD] said yesterday that there are people in the country interested in the unraveling of the crisis that arose last Wednesday. Prof Juan Bosch stated that he is trying to find a solution to the crisis and called for the arrangement of an agreement on national identity. The former Dominican president stated that he knew that by proposing the idea he risked being misinterpreted.

Prof Juan Bosch's proposal for an agreement on national identity was published last Thursday by the morning daily LISTIN DIARIO. The idea, according to the PLD president, would gather together all political parties including Reformists and Dominican Revolutionaries. In pointing out that his suggestion was a proposal to search for a solution to the crisis that arose last Wednesday with the occupation of the Central Electoral Board, Prof Juan Bosch stated: There is more than one way out of this crisis. He added that what the parties did, especially those on the left, was to add fuel to the fire.

Prof Juan Bosch stated that PLD leaders and members do not put the party's interests above the interests of the Dominican people. The former constitutional president of the republic feels that politics is a science in which one does not improvise. Bosch stated that for this reason we did not go into the street and demonstrate last Wednesday, but rather we launched a plan for an agreement on national unity.

ANTIGUA

MAJOR CABINET REORGANIZATION ANNOUNCED

FL241445Y Kingston DAILY CLEANER in English 22 May 78 p 3 FL

[Text] St. John's, Antigua, May 19, (CANA)--Major changes in the Antigua cabinet were announced today by Premier Vere C. Bird, with a new finance minister being named:

Reuben Harris has been moved from the Finance Ministry and made minister of education and culture, and his post in the Finance Ministry has been taken over by Mr. John St. Luce.

Mr. Joseph Miles has been named agriculture minister, having served as education minister.

Mr. Adolphus Freeland, minister of health and home affairs has been named minister of Barbuda affairs, while Mr. Christopher O'Mard, previously responsible for Barbuda and information, takes over as health and information.

JAMAICA

SEAGA SAYS GOVERNMENT NOT MAKING FULL DISCLOSURE ON LOAN

FL192015Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 13 May 78 p 3 FL

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 12 May (CANA)--Jamaica's opposition leader Edward Seaga has said that the government sought to avoid certain unpalatable truths in its presentation of the new US$240 million International Monetary Fund loan in Parliament on Tuesday.

That had been done "despite assurances by the government that full disclosure would be made in respect of the agreement," Mr. Seaga said.

The opposition leader said that devaluation was 48 per cent in respect of the basic rate of exchange--the rate which affected goods imported with an eye to the needs of the poor--and is 15 per cent on the special rate.

Government announced that the dual rate would be abolished and the special rate, which would become the official rate, devalued 15 per cent immediately with a further 15 per cent over the next year.

"Despite the fact that the 48 per cent devaluation of the basic rate is the more devastating of the two changes in rate, the 15 per cent devaluation of the special rate was highlighted in the government's presentation, virtually to the exclusion of the change in the basic rate of exchange which govern the goods for the poor," Mr. Seaga said.

Estimates

He added that "the tax package is not $180 million, this estimate related to a nine-month period of collections.

"The true estimate will be over $200 million, if this extent of additional taxation can be collected at all."

The government announced additional taxes on cigarettes, beer, gasoline, spirits and on a number of licences.

According to Mr. Seaga, a good example of the level of new taxation was the fact that a nine-seater mini-bus for transportation which used to sell for $9,000 now cost $17,500--"and this is one of the cheapest models."

"The nation was also treated to the most chaotic presentation of a tax package known to its parliamentary history."

"The basic maxim of taxation is that there should be certainty of the extent of the effect," said Mr. Seaga, adding that on the basis of Mr. Bell's presentation on Tuesday and price orders published by Industry Minister Danny Williams, "chaos reigns in the country."

"No manufacturer, distributor or retailer is in a position to determine what price to sell goods at as a result of the double blow of devaluation and taxation," the opposition leader said.

Confusion

And in some cases where old prices have been revoked but new price orders have not been published, confusion has been created, he said.

"This confusion has plunged the entire productive sector into the embarrassment of not being able to properly price its products and, as a result, some manufacturers and distributors have stopped all deliveries."

"Furthermore, in the chaos, disputes over prices are bound to arise between purchasers and sellers and the public is bound to suffer."

"It is obvious," the opposition leader continued, "that in the agreement with the IMF one thing was not taken into consideration, and it is that whatever may be the terms of the agreement, this bungling government is incapable of carrying them out without total chaos, mismanagement and confusion."

Reaction to the IMF package has also come in from a section of the labour movement, as the National Workers' Union expressed "shock and profound concern."

It said the package would affect the workers and the nation as a whole, and that now all the details were available, the union would assess all aspects of the matter before convening an emergency meeting of the General Executive Council. A series of regional meetings will then be held islandwide to discuss the implications with the workers, the union said.

GOVERNOR GENERAL STRESSES NEED FOR SACRIFICE, AUSTERITY

FL192025Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 17 May 78 pp 1, 9 FL

[Text] Sacrifice and austerity were major themes of the throne speech which opened the 1978/79 session of Parliament with traditional ceremony and tight security at Gordon House yesterday.

Governor-General the Most Hon. Florizel Glasspole delivered the 30-minute speech to the joint sitting of the Senate and the House of Representatives, and from the outset referred to the $250-million IMF loan agreement "and its implications for our country at this time of grave economic crisis."

The governor-general reiterated the government's stand that any alternative to the IMF agreement "would entail sacrifices and hardships of even more unprecedented magnitude."

Harsh Truth

"The harsh truth of our condition in this country is that economic growth can take place only if surpluses are created in both the public and private sectors for reinvestment to create a further stream of goods and services and in so doing enhance the level of income, employment and output," the governor-general said.

Placing emphasis on the need for production for export, he appealed to the private sector to play a more significant role. He said that government on its part would take all possible measures to secure this development and would review incentives to industry to make them more relevant to actual needs.

The governor-general said government intended to maintain the pace and direction of the structural reform and social changes developed during the 1972/76 period.

House Building

In the house building programme it was intended for the first time "that all agencies, public and private, concerned in the industry will be brought together in the endeavour of developing a national shelter programme."

With many of the concepts and institutions of a democratic society already in place "the consolidation of these gains and the development of the economic foundation on which they must rest is the supreme priority of the nation," the governor-general said.

Referring to the coming national five-year plan for the period 1978-83, the governor-general said the broad objectives were to change the structure of the economy to reduce the constraint that import availability places on the growth of real output; generate employment for the lowest income groups; make much more efficient and productive use of government resources; and take long-term steps for the careful development, conservation and use of basic human and natural resources.

Craft Development

The governor-general spoke of the role of the trade administrator's department in foreign exchange budgeting as well as the significance of the State Trading Corporation; the increasing emphasis that will be placed on craft development through the National Institute of Craft; and the role of the Small Enterprise Development Company to assist small industries.

He said the road ahead was rough and tortuous but government was confident that the Jamaican people had the capacity to accept the challenge and overcome.

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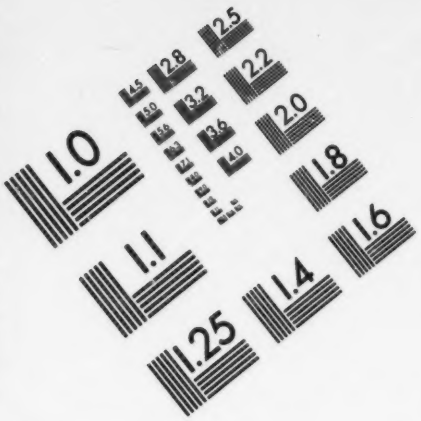

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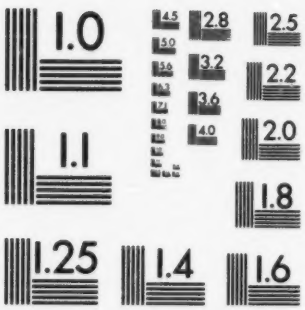

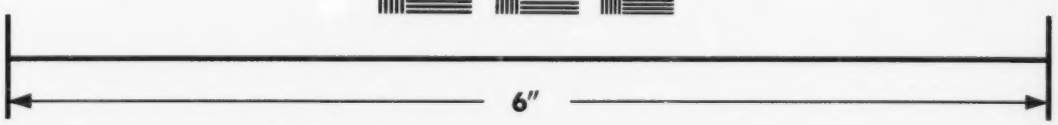

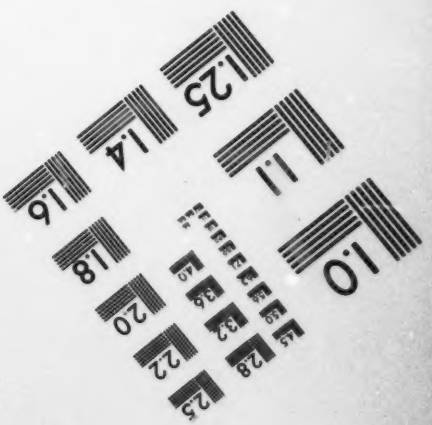

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